

Panther Creek and Panther Creek Gorge

Presented here is series of photographs that were taken by S. Robert Powell of Panther Creek as it descends the mountain at Panther Bluffs.

The first photograph shown here was taken at the top of the mountain, where Panther Creek begins its descent of the mountain through a series of beautiful waterfalls. In this view, we are looking in the direction of Simpson:



The body of water at the top of Panther Bluff is known locally as 'Big Panthers,' shown here with most of the water gone, but with Panther Creek still flowing into the area. The water was held back by a dam, constructed largely of wood. The remains of the dam can be seen in the center foreground of this photo.



The falls at the top of Panther Gorge, seen from above the falls:



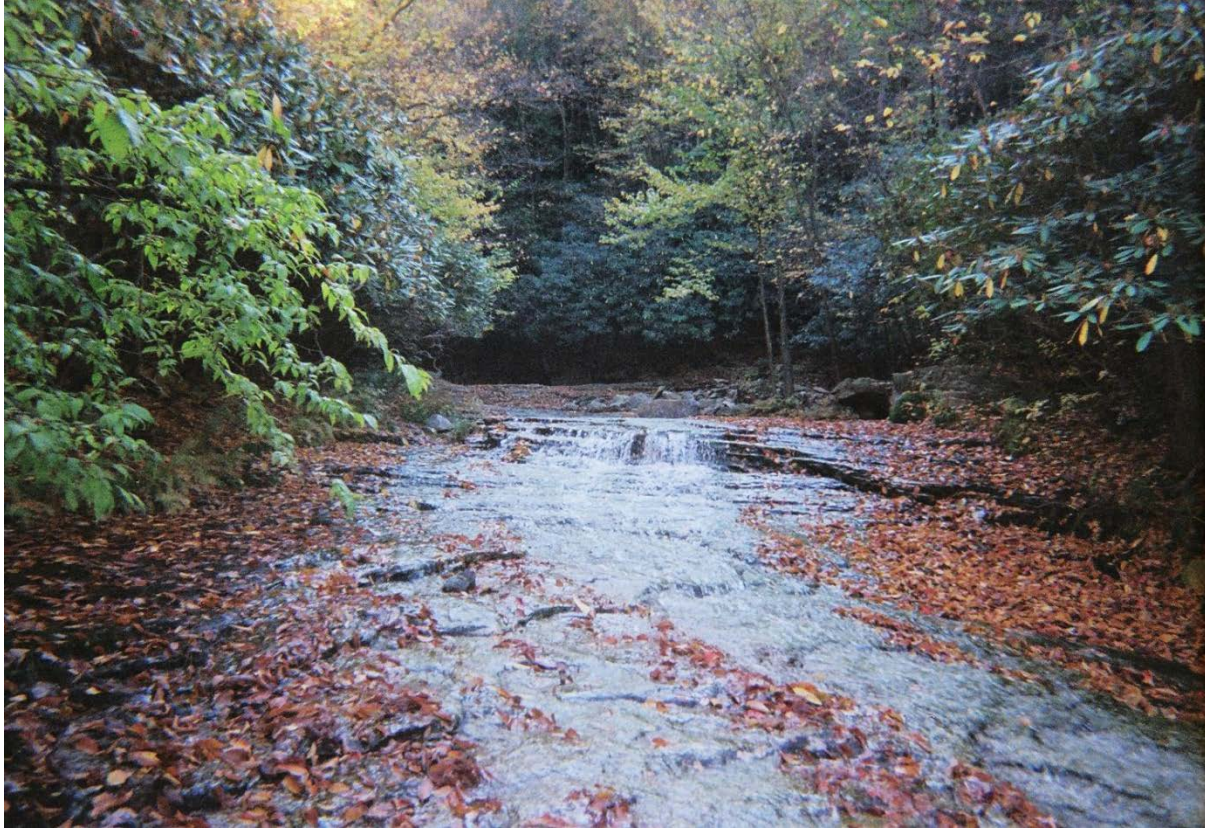
The falls shown above, seen from below the falls:



Another falls on the descent of the mountain:



Another falls on the descent of the mountain:



Another falls on the descent of the mountain:



Another falls on the descent of the mountain:



Another falls on the descent of the mountain:



At the foot of the gorge, Panther Creek flows through a large concrete pipe under the roadbed of the New York, Ontario and Western Railway and then merges with the Lackawanna River.







"Panther Bluff Creek Gorge. This spectacular ravine on the west flank of the Moosic Mountains just southeast of No. 10 Falls on the Lackawanna River exposes a continuous series of rock pavements and cliffs starting at an elevation of about 1750 feet and extending down to the level of the river at about 1200 feet. Of the numerous waterfalls over ledges of Pottsville sandstone and conglomerate, the highest and most picturesque is the 100-foot high Panther Falls. This cascade is located near the top of the steep part of the mountain slope, its base being at roughly the same elevation as the bend in the 'Shepherd's Crook' on the old D&H Gravity Railroad. . . The creek was the source of water for the steam locomotives on the gravity railroad* and also formerly supplied Carbondale with part of its water supply (from a reservoir at the top of Panther Falls). The former water line tract is now used as a hiking path from the O&W to the middle and upper falls." (*Upper Lackawanna Watershed Conservation Management Plan, Final Report, January, 2002, Chapter 1, Introduction & Background, pp. 32-33*)

* Not true. Panther Creek did not supply water for any of the stationary steam engines or steam locomotives on the D&H Gravity Railroad.